

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01
SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07
TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 /140 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD
SUBJECT: UNCTAD AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM
OF COMMODITIES (AHIC) - COMMON FUND ASPECTS

REF: (A) STATE 172368, (B) GENEVA 10489, (C) GENEVA 10490,
(D) GENEVA 10585, (E) GENEVA 10620, (F) GENEVA 10691
(G) GENEVA 10933

SUMMARY: AHIC MEETING ENDED SUCCESSFULLY SATURDAY EVENING
WITH CONSENSUS ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION CONSISTENT WITH
U.S. VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE FURTHER INFORMAL SUBSTANTIVE
CONSULTATION AND ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS BY COREA BEFORE
FINAL DECISION ON DATE OF RESUMED NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE.
END SUMMARY.

1. AHIC MET JULY 10-15 TO REVIEW STATUS OF WORK ON COMMON
FUND AND INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES. MEETING OPENED WITH GEN-
ERAL STATEMENT, INCLUDING THAT OF GROUP B, AND REPORTS
BY CHAIRMEN OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY GROUPS. MOST OF RE-
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MAINTAINING TIME TAKEN UP WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON TEXT OF RESO-
LUTION. CHAIRMAN HUSLID PRESENTED MEETING WITH "COMPRO-
MISE TEXT" LATE FRIDAY NIGHT. WE STATED WE CONSIDERED IT
UNSATISFACTORY AND IF IT WERE PRESSED, WE WOULD HAVE TO
CALL FOR A VOTE. INSTEAD, IT WAS AGREED TO CONTINUE
NEGOTIATIONS ON SATURDAY, AND A SATISFACTORY TEXT WHICH
WAS WORKED OUT WAS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS. U.S. MADE

STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY WE HAD INSISTED ON TEXT WHICH CALLED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PROSPECTS BEFORE A FINAL DECISION ON SETTING A DATE FOR A RESUMED CONFERENCE. OUR STATEMENT ALSO MADE CLEAR OUR EARNEST INTENTION TO COOPERATE ACTIVELY AND POSITIVELY IN FORTHCOMING INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AND IN EVENTUAL RESUMED CONFERENCE, WHICH WE HOPED WOULD BE HELD BEFORE END OF THE YEAR. THIS STATEMENT WAS WELL-RECEIVED BY ALL. PEREZ-GUERRERO TOLD US IT HAD DISPELLED ANY DOUBTS THAT U.S. WAS JUST DRAGGING ITS FEET AND WAS NOT REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT MOVING THE EXERCISE FORWARD. NOTE: WHILE FINAL TEXT IS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. VIEW, CALENDAR OF MEETINGS EARMARKS NOVEMBER 13-30 FOR RESUMED COMMON FUND NEGOTIATING SESSION, WITH FOOTNOTE READING "FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. EXACT DATE AND DURATION TO BE DECIDED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD IN THE LIGHT OF FURTHER CONSULTATIONS." FINAL G-77 STATEMENT INDICATED EXPECTATION THAT CONFERENCE WOULD INDEED BE HELD AT THAT TIME, AND OTHER GROUP B COUNTRIES EXPECT THAT THIS IS VIRTUALLY INEVITABLE. RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINAL DECISION, HOWEVER, WOULD HAVE TO BE BORNE BY SYG. DURATION OF POSSIBLE MEETING IS QUESTION MARK. IN OPENING STATEMENT COREA SUGGESTED NEXT MEETING BE FOR TWO WEEKS. G-77, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN TALKING OF MEETING FOR 2-3 WEEKS. CONCERNING ORGANIZATION OF FUTURE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, COREA HAS INDICATED TO US THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE BASED ON GROUP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPRESENTATION, BUT THAT "THE SAME PEOPLE WOULD BE INVOLVED."

2. IN ITS FINAL STATEMENT, G-77 REFERRED TO SUMMIT MEETINGS IN AFRICA AND BONN, AND EXPRESSED HOPE COMMUNIQUE OF BONN SUMMIT WOULD HAVE POSITIVE REFERENCE TO COMMON FUND.

3. OTHER MAJOR GROUP B COUNTRIES SHARED OUR VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO TAKE DECISION ON DATE OF RESUMED NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE NOW BECAUSE OF WIDE REMAINING DIFFERENCES ON MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND UNDESIRABILITY OF TAKING A CHANCE ON ANOTHER FAILED CONFERENCE. NONE, HOWEVER, WERE WILLING TO OPPOSE SETTING A DATE IF COREA AND THE G-77 WISHED. THEIR POSITION WAS THAT THE G-77 HAD DROPPED ITS EARLIER PRECONDITION THAT GROUP B CHANGE ITS POSITION BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE RESUMED, AND IN VIEW OF THIS GROUP B COULD NOT REFUSE TO RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. WE THUS HAD TO CARRY NEGOTIATING BURDEN PRETTY MUCH BY OURSELVES. AT END OF MEETING, WE SUGGESTED THAT GROUP B REITERATE ITS VIEWS AS SET OUT IN INITIAL STATEMENT, BUT NORDICS REFUSED. WE THEN TRIED TO ORGANIZE STATEMENT BY A NUMBER OF MAJOR GROUP B COUNTRIES.

UK AND CANADA WERE WILLING IN PRINCIPLE BUT JAPAN AND
FEDREP UNWILLING TO GO ALONG. WE THUS MADE STATEMENT FOR
U.S. ALONE. THIS WORKED TO OUR ADVANTAGE, WE BELIEVE,
SINCE WE WERE ABLE TO PUT OUR VIEWS CLEARLY ON RECORD,
INCLUDING OUR COMMITMENT TO PLAY POSITIVE ROLE IN WORKING
TOWARD COMMON OBJECTIVE OF EARLY, SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

4. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF MEETING, I.E.,
INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES DISCUSSION AND TEXT, AUSTRALIAN
SUGAR INITIATIVE, AND NEGOTIATING METHODS AND CLIMATE.

5. TEXT OF FINAL RESOLUTION AND U.S. STATEMENT CONTAINED
REFTEL G. VANDEN HEUVEL

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